



Nipa District in Tondo, Manila.

HOW WE MAKE AN EMPIRE



A Carromata one of the Types of Public Vehicles Used in Manila

Wonders Wrought in Philippines in a Decade—Review of Work of Civilization Done by Americans

Again the question of the future of the Philippines is under discussion. It is therefore of interest to review the results so far achieved by Americans in the government of the islands. The information given in the following article comes from official sources and is intended merely to present a picture of present conditions in the Philippines.

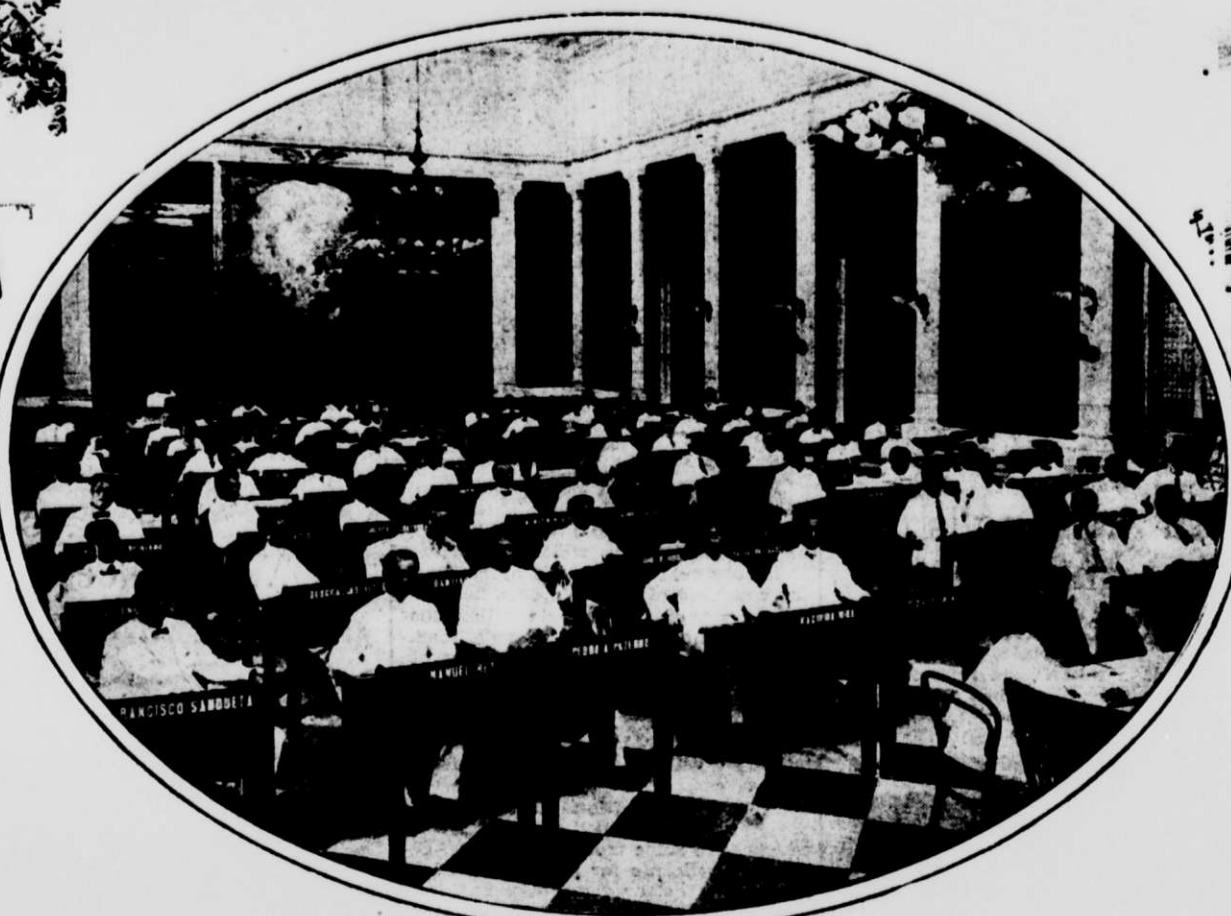
THE American possession of the Philippine Islands has been undisputed for eleven years. Prior to that a considerable portion of the population, under the leadership of Aguinaldo, had sought to establish a republic under native rule. With the capture of Aguinaldo came the real beginning of the first serious undertaking of the American people in the way of foreign colonization. A careful consideration of what has been accomplished in a single decade is of interest at a time when it is seriously proposed by many Americans to abandon the work and leave the Philippines to work out their own salvation.

Ten years ago we had an army of 50,000 men stationed there. To-day it numbers 10,000. The maintenance of this army is the only item of expense in the Philippines which is defrayed by the United States Government. Outside of this the entire cost of the development which has been accomplished has been borne by the Philippine local government, which is financially self-sustaining, and by private capital. The state is frequently made that the Philippine colonies are maintained by the United States at a cost of many millions annually was recently characterized by President Taft as "one of those things which apparently cannot be stamped out."

At the beginning of the present century the 7,000 islands grouped in the Philippine Archipelago were in a condition fairly to be called chaotic. The population was heterogeneous. A large portion of the islands were divided by tribes of savages and semi-savages. Some of these were constantly at war against themselves. The country was unexplored. Only a small fraction of the natural resources had been drawn out.

Now peace prevails over practically the entire territory. Good will on the part of the native population toward the government is almost universal. Prosperity in a degree never before known is already assured. All this is the result of American enterprise.

A system of self-government has been established under the supervision of United States officials. This government is in fairly good working order and promises of becoming entirely self-sufficient in the requirements of the islands if the time ever comes when the interests of the islands shall be placed in the hands of the natives.



First Philippine Assembly

Philippines. In each of the former there is a provincial board with limited legislative and executive powers. The members of these boards are mostly Filipinos. A still further subdivision of the Government consists of municipal councils, having charge of strictly local matters, such as licenses and the maintenance of bylaws. Of these councils there are more than six hundred.

The city of Manila is governed by a municipal board modeled after the council of the city of Manila in the District of Columbia.

In the seven non-Christian provinces there are governors appointed by the Governor-General, but the forms of local government vary according to different conditions.

The chief executive of the Philippines is, of course, the Governor-General. The force relied upon to maintain order outside of the regular army of the United States is the Philippine Constabulary.

This is a body of between 4,000 and 5,000 officers and men. The officers are mostly Americans. The enlisted men are all Filipinos. For a time after its formation the constabulary was chiefly occupied in restoring order from the chaotic conditions that obtained as a result of insurrections, which were rife a dozen years ago. There was much brigandage and no small tendency to lapse into savagery under the domination of petty local tyrants. These troubles are now over excepting in one or two localities, when the least amenable of the natives still persist in waging war of no very formidable descriptions, and the chief duties of the constabulary now consist in patrolling the rural districts and in maintaining quarantines where disease becomes epidemic.

A significant fact showing the change that has been brought about largely through the operation of the constabulary is that it is now safe for any traveler to visit any of the civilized and most of the uncivilized portions of the islands alone and unarmed.

The general supervision of the entire system of material improvements which has been inaugurated by the new Government is vested in the Bureau of Public Works. Possibly the most immediately noticeable of these many improvements is that of the road system, which has been developed to such an extent that motorcycles and automobiles now travel in great numbers over nearly the whole of the island of Luzon.

Up to 1905 the only resource of those who died of thirst was to use the only drinking water that was available was in its distillation or in the substitution of imported bottled waters. Americans have since provided a supply of pure drinking water by means of a system of artesian wells. This was begun in 1905 with the construction of two wells and has been followed up so diligently that there are now some six hundred of them in operation in the islands. Their value is apparent when it is noted that the death rate has fallen off remarkably in all the localities in which these wells are situated, and in some places in which the supply they yield is abundant, the betterment has amounted to as much as 50 per cent. This conservation of human life is a direct result of American energy and intelligence.

Akin to the subject of drinking water is that of irrigation. Preliminary work is in progress which will ultimately bring more than a million acres of land into a vastly improved condition. And in addition to this surveys are being made of works which will bring the entire central valley of Luzon from Manila to Dagupan under irrigation.

Great numbers of miscellaneous projects have been undertaken. Among these may be mentioned the excellent modern system of water supply and sewerage already completed in the city of Manila; the similar system in construction in Cebu and others in other towns; the protection of lowland settlements from the perils of flood; a commencement of works looking to the utilization of the abundant water power which exists in various parts of the islands, and the beginning of a system of automobile transportation which, it is expected will be taken up and developed by private enterprise.

A system of public instruction has been developed, on which the Philippine Government spends more money than it does on any other branch of its work, and which has produced already a marked change in the condition of the people. The system embraces not only the schools throughout the territory in which book education is given, with the addition of manual training of the young, but also important trade schools in the city of Manila.

Before the present Government was fairly established American military commanders opened about one thousand different schools in various places, detailing soldiers from our army to act as

teachers, and securing when possible the aid of native teachers. When the civil government superseded the military in 1900 one of the first steps taken in its organization was the planning of a comprehensive school system, entirely free from Church supervision. This exists to-day, distinct and separate from the schools maintained by the Church.

The entire territory was divided into districts, corresponding generally with the provincial division, and American teachers were brought from the United States, the English language being adopted by the Filipinos as the official medium of instruction.

The beginning of actual operations was almost of a character to be called pioneer work. It was a fact that in numerous instances the teachers who were imported built their own school-houses made their own benches and taught such children as they were able to gather in for the first few months without books, slates or maps. School material, however, was imported as rapidly as possible and distributed with equal dispatch until in a comparatively short time the system was in good working order.

To-day there are nearly 700 American and more than a thousand Filipino teachers paid from the insular treasury, while there are more than 7,000 Filipino teachers employed by the various municipalities. There are in the islands upward of 4,400 public schools of the ordinary type, with a total annual attendance of 619,493 pupils and an average monthly enrollment of 416,882, of whom 278,336 are boys and 168,493 are girls.

Fifteen of the intermediate schools are organized as trade schools on a commercial basis, twenty-five are manual training schools and five are farming schools where practical instruction in scientific agriculture is given. In the higher schools this training is continued to a point at which the pupils become trained apprentices in various lines of industry in which they are fitted to earn a comfortable living. As an



Cascos or Native House Boats on the Pasig River, Manila

Staple Government Established, Schools Opened, Prison System Introduced and Prosperity Given Islanders

example more than 12,000 boys are already well schooled in the use of carpentering tools.

Beyond this are the normal schools in Manila, at which there is an average monthly attendance of 773 pupils; a school of commerce with 282 and a school for the deaf and blind with twenty-six pupils. And at the summit of the school system is the University of the Philippines, consisting of six colleges and a school of fine arts, with various preparatory schools, all having a total enrollment of 1,449 students.

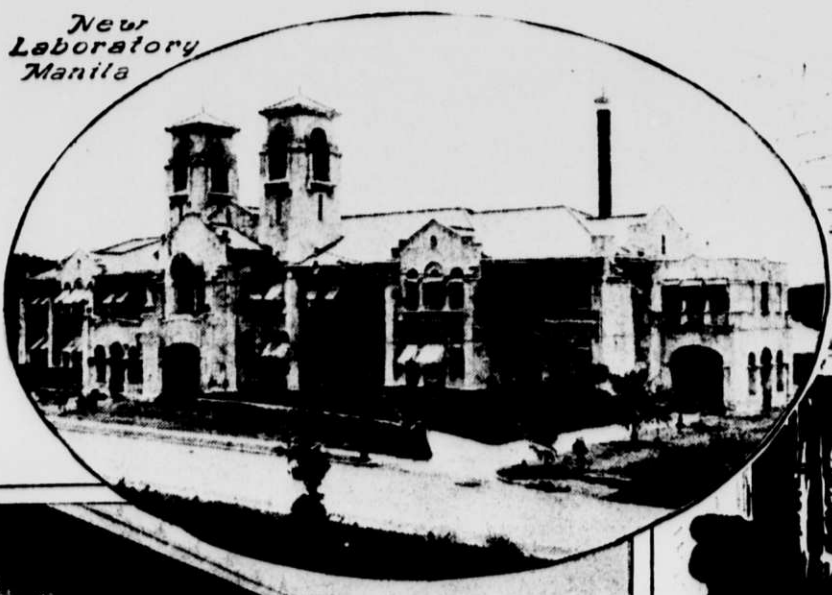
A system of penology has been established which ranks among the most advanced in existence. The theory on which the system is founded is avowedly and entirely corrective and not punitive. No prisoner excepting those condemned to death is deprived of the rights of a free citizen with the single exception of his liberty, and even at that he enjoys a restricted measure. The Bureau of Prisons has charge of two institutions and has under supervision nearly 7,000 prisoners of all grades. The local prison, so-called in Manila, is the Bilibid and the penal colony of the Government is situated on the island of Palawan. In addition there are thirty-four provincial prisons situated at the capitals of the various provinces.

In Bilibid there are no cells. There is no corporal punishment of any kind. There are no stripes of disgrace imposed upon any prisoner excepting for misconduct, nor any punishment exacting after the trial before one of the principal officers of the prison for such misconduct.

The prisoner who is sentenced to Bilibid is first sent for a number of days to the quarantine hospital, where he is examined and watched by the physician in charge till his general condition is ascertained. Then for a month or so he is trained in the awkward squad and drilled physically and mentally while he is learning the rules to which he is subject and the privileges which he can enjoy if his conduct entitles him to them. Having thus been made familiar with the routine of the place and with the various trades and industries in which he can be trained he is allowed to choose the trade which he desires to learn and is entered in the shop assigned to one of the brigades into which the prison population is divided. Each brigade consists of approximately 225 prisoners.

Thereafter the life of the prisoner is in most respects whatever he chooses to make of it. He may talk freely with his mates, play games, read or study at his pleasure outside of the hours devoted to work and sleep. There is no guard stationed nearer to him than those on the outer walls of the prison, which is an enclosure covering about twenty acres. He lives in a large ward

Continued on Fourteenth Page.



New Laboratory Manila



New Municipal Building Manila



Street in San Nicholas, Manila



Native Tienda Manila



Class in Biology, Normal School, Manila